



Dear Parents and Carers

18 January 2021

In my previous letter dated January 8th I said that I would write to you again once there was more clarity about the replacement for GCSE, AS and A-Level examinations in the summer of 2021. You will have been aware from the media that on Friday 15th January a consultation document has been released. This document entitled 'Consultation on how GCSE, AS, and A Level Grades Should be Awarded in Summer 2021' is a joint consultation from Ofqual and the DfE. They have stated that they 'want to hear the views of students who are due to take their exams, their parents and carers, their teachers, school and college leaders and others who have an interest, including further and higher education providers and employers.' The link below will take you to this document which includes the questions on which the consultation is based. Please respond to this consultation by completing the on-line response on the webpage. There is no official vehicle through which the school can forward any response from you, therefore you will need to respond directly via the webpage.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/consultation-on-how-gcse-as-and-a-level-grades-should-be-awarded-in-summer-2021>

I shall be sending a link to students in both Y11 and Y13 in line with Ofqual and DfE intentions to hear students' views. The senior leadership team and staff will also be responding to the consultation. Please note the deadline for receipt of your responses to the DfE is Friday 29th January at 23.45.

Staff have been very complimentary about the engagement and standard of work that students in Y11 and Y13 have been submitting since the start of term. I would urge you to support your sons and daughters to continue to work hard, completing all assignments, engaging in lessons and continuing to do their very best. All of this will contribute to the journey towards final outcomes at GCSE and A Levels. If your son or daughter experiences any difficulties in accessing their learning, please contact the relevant Head of Year; Y11 Ms Acheampong and Y13 Ms Barker.

Year 11 parent teacher consultation evenings begin this week, these are the first remote parent evenings. As these are time limited by the system, please find attached some frequently asked questions and answers that may help ensure the allocated time focuses on your child's progress and any additional support they may require moving forward.

Y11 transition meetings begin this week, students have been sent their allocated time and will be attending a Teams meeting with a member of the senior leadership team.

Headteacher Mrs Colette O'Dwyer

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Thank you for all that you are doing to support with your children's education. These continue to be challenging times and we need to dig deep together in the last push towards better times. I will continue to keep you informed and updated as information is released by the DfE and Ofqual.

Take very good care of yourselves and your families.

Kind regards.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Colette O'Dwyer'.

Colette O'Dwyer
Headteacher

Encs.